

## ALASKA'S 2001 CROP AND WEATHER REVIEW

The 2001 crop season started with cold and wet conditions in the Tanana Valley where snow fell during the first and second weeks of May. The Kenai also had an unusual snowfall the first week in May. The Matanuska Valley saw milder and warmer conditions that allowed the planting of grains and potatoes to begin a week earlier than in the other areas. Warmer and drier conditions prevailed the second half of the month. This allowed barley planting to be 75% complete, oat planting to be 85% complete and potato planting to be 60% complete by month's end. Vegetables were also being transplanted out in the fields. Moisture supplies were generally adequate throughout the month.

June was warm and dry throughout the state with high temperatures in the 70's and lows in the mid-forties. Crop growth was generally moderate to rapid with soil moisture becoming short by month's end. The barley and oat crops were in good to excellent condition throughout the month. The barley crop was fully emerged by mid-month and was just beginning to head at month's end. The potato crop was 95% emerged and reported in good condition at month's end. Hay was reported in fair to good condition throughout the state. Planting of vegetables continued throughout the month even as some fresh vegetables were being sent to market.

July started out sunny and dry. This allowed for good progress on the first cutting of hay. Condition of the hay crop was reported as good to excellent, except in the Kenai where it was listed as fair to good. The lack of rain led to reports of moisture supplies being short throughout the state. By the second week in July rain was falling, hampering the hay harvest, but

bringing needed moisture to other crops. By month's end barley was 75% in dough, oats were 45% in dough and 15% of the potato crop was in bloom. All three crops were in good to excellent condition. First cutting of hay continued. Vegetable harvest also continued with local stores and farmers markets hosting a variety of Alaska grown produce.

The beginning of August was cool and wet. This helped to keep moisture supplies at adequate levels throughout the month. By mid-month drier conditions prevailed. The barley, oat, hay and potato crops were all reported in good to excellent condition. Barley and oats were beginning to turn color in some areas. Second cutting of hay was underway in the Tanana and Matanuska Valleys. Second cutting started a week later in the Kenai area. By the end of the month both barley and oats were reported as 5% ripe and potato harvest was underway.

The first week of September brought some rain and continued cool temperatures, although there had yet to be a killing frost. Fall arrived the second week of September with temperatures falling into the 20's in Delta Junction. The rest of the month provided ideal condition for harvesting grains, hay and potatoes. By the end of the month more than 90% of those crops had been harvested. Hay supplies for the winter were predicted to be adequate to surplus except in Kenai where they were predicted to be short to adequate.

Detailed summaries of temperature and precipitation are shown on the next two pages. Data for these summaries are taken from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration monthly publication of Climatological Data.

ALASKA PRECIPITATION DATA (Inches)															
Station	2001 Precipitation							2001 Snow	Average Precipitation 1/						
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Year		Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Year
TANANA VALLEY															
Fairbanks Ap.	<b>0.16</b>	<b>0.62</b>	<b>0.65</b>	<b>2.45</b>	<b>2.01</b>	<b>0.25</b>	<b>8.48</b>	57	0.23	0.81	2.27	2.19	2.13	1.49	13.12
University Exp. Sta.	<b>0.17</b>	<b>0.41</b>	<b>0.42</b>	<b>2.92</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.31</b>	<b>5.46</b>	47	0.25	0.67	1.57	2.11	2.35	1.26	12.32
Eielson Field	<b>0.18</b>	<b>0.75</b>	<b>0.66</b>	<b>3.35</b>	<b>2.44</b>	<b>0.71</b>	<b>9.03</b>	48	0.31	0.34	1.72	2.43	2.27	1.37	12.97
Big Delta Ap.	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.66</b>	<b>0.67</b>	<b>4.25</b>	<b>0.53</b>	<b>0.65</b>	<b>7.75</b>	NA	0.25	0.88	2.29	2.66	1.99	1.08	11.60
MATANUSKA VALLEY															
Anchorage Ap.	<b>0.34</b>	<b>0.48</b>	<b>0.24</b>	<b>4.49</b>	<b>0.97</b>	<b>1.14</b>	<b>12.54</b>	62	0.54	0.68	1.01	1.93	2.66	2.60	15.62
Lazy Mountain	<b>0.61</b>	<b>1.60</b>	<b>0.90</b>	<b>3.02</b>	<b>0.73</b>	<b>1.54</b>	<b>15.67</b>	87	0.36	0.99	1.38	2.12	2.97	2.89	19.13
Matanuska Exp. Sta.	<b>0.28</b>	<b>1.01</b>	<b>0.94</b>	<b>3.83</b>	<b>0.98</b>	<b>1.91</b>	<b>13.45</b>	41	0.45	0.73	1.39	2.22	2.55	2.45	15.37
Mirror Lake	<b>0.34</b>	NA	<b>0.71</b>	NA	NA	<b>0.39</b>	<b>6.55</b>	40	0.23	0.85	1.26	2.15	2.51	2.05	NA
KENAI PENINSULA															
Homer Ap.	<b>1.00</b>	<b>0.28</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>3.13</b>	<b>3.01</b>	<b>2.47</b>	<b>31.85</b>	119	1.23	1.03	0.98	1.60	2.52	3.02	25.05
Kenai Ap.	<b>0.90</b>	<b>0.14</b>	<b>0.45</b>	<b>2.88</b>	<b>1.80</b>	<b>1.65</b>	<b>13.30</b>	44	0.74	0.94	1.18	1.86	2.66	3.27	19.34
OTHER AREAS															
Kodiak Ap.	<b>5.01</b>	<b>4.28</b>	<b>2.44</b>	<b>2.79</b>	<b>6.39</b>	<b>9.21</b>	<b>78.17</b>	37	5.58	5.90	5.31	4.10	4.48	7.89	76.32
Nome Ap.	<b>1.71</b>	<b>0.45</b>	<b>1.17</b>	<b>2.15</b>	<b>3.16</b>	<b>0.73</b>	<b>13.44</b>	111	0.69	0.69	1.07	2.21	3.35	2.49	15.99
McGrath Ap.	<b>2.04</b>	<b>0.45</b>	<b>0.30</b>	<b>3.14</b>	<b>2.18</b>	<b>0.90</b>	<b>13.83</b>	105	0.68	0.90	1.54	2.28	2.98	2.28	17.32
Juneau Ap.	<b>2.19</b>	<b>5.19</b>	<b>1.65</b>	<b>7.26</b>	<b>3.66</b>	<b>8.37</b>	<b>59.44</b>	29	2.92	3.56	3.10	4.35	5.30	7.24	56.60
Cold Bay Ap.	<b>4.61</b>	<b>0.92</b>	<b>3.96</b>	<b>3.47</b>	<b>2.28</b>	<b>3.86</b>	<b>45.66</b>	80	2.07	2.47	2.48	3.75	4.30	4.40	38.20

1/ Averages based on Historical records from 1970 - 2001 when data available from the Alaska Climate Summaries.

# ALASKA TEMPERATURE DATA

Station	2001 Averages					Historical Averages 1/					2000 Growing Season Avg. No. Frost Free Days 32° 1/	Elevation in Feet
	Year	Jan	Apr	Jul	Sep	Year	Jan	Apr	Jul	Sep		
	Degrees					Days						Feet
TANANA VALLEY												
Fairbanks Ap.	28	8	33	60	42	27	-10	31	62	45	117	436
University Exp. Sta.	34	11	34	60	49	28	-7	31	61	45	96	475
Eielson Field	32	10	35	60	46	26	-10	31	61	45	112	547
Big Delta Ap.	33	15	35	58	46	28	-4	31	60	44	100	1,268
MATANUSKA VALLEY												
Anchorage Ap.	37	27	38	58	49	36	15	36	58	48	138	114
Lazy Mountain	38	27	35	55	46	35	16	35	56	45	101	728
Matanuska Exp. Sta.	39	29	38	58	29	36	13	37	58	48	117	150
Mirror Lake	34	29	37	NA	47	NA	15	37	57	47	138	405
KENAI PENINSULA												
Homer Ap.	33	33	38	55	34	38	23	36	53	47	125	89
Kenai Ap.	35	27	36	55	48	34	12	34	54	47	106	86
OTHER AREAS												
Kodiak Ap.	41	32	38	56	50	41	31	38	55	50	141	111
Nome Ap.	26	17	22	48	42	26	6	19	51	42	84	13
McGrath Ap.	27	10	31	58	47	26	-8	27	59	44	106	344
Juneau Ap.	42	37	40	55	50	41	24	40	56	42	144	12
Cold Bay Ap.	39	30	36	52	47	38	28	33	50	48	N/A	90

1/ Averages based on Historical records from 1970 - 2001 when data available.

WEEKLY PAN EVAPORATION AND PRECIPITATION, 1998 - 2001 GROWING SEASON																
Month/Week																
	1998				1999				2000				2001			
	Evap	Total	Precip	Total	Evap	Total	Precip	Total	Evap	Total	Precip	Total	Evap	Total	Precip	Total
May-Week 1	--	--	0.45	0.45	0.74	0.74	0.06	0.06	1.19	1.19	0.01	0.01	<b>0.56</b>	<b>0.56</b>	<b>0.35</b>	<b>0.35</b>
Week 2	--	--	0.11	0.56	1.11	1.85	0.07	0.13	1.01	2.20	0.05	0.06	<b>0.04</b>	<b>0.60</b>	<b>0.36</b>	<b>0.71</b>
Week 3	0.96	0.96	0.01	0.57	1.26	3.11	0.03	0.16	0.22	2.42	0.71	0.77	<b>0.75</b>	<b>1.35</b>	<b>0.12</b>	<b>0.83</b>
Week 4	0.64	1.60	0.07	0.64	-0.59	2.52	1.39	1.55	0.76	3.18	0.22	0.99	<b>0.61</b>	<b>1.96</b>	<b>0.15</b>	<b>0.98</b>
June-Week 1	0.77	2.37	0.06	0.70	0.67	3.19	0.39	1.94	1.15	4.33	0.02	1.01	<b>1.17</b>	<b>3.13</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>1.01</b>
Week 2	-0.30	2.07	1.05	1.75	1.56	4.75	0.00	1.94	1.04	5.37	0.04	1.05	<b>0.39</b>	<b>3.52</b>	<b>0.34</b>	<b>1.35</b>
Week 3	-0.18	1.89	0.39	2.14	NA	4.75	0.00	1.94	0.70	6.07	0.20	1.25	<b>0.43</b>	<b>3.95</b>	<b>0.48</b>	<b>1.83</b>
Week 4	0.93	2.82	0.20	2.34	0.56	5.31	0.37	2.31	1.15	7.22	0.05	1.30	<b>1.30</b>	<b>5.25</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1.83</b>
July-Week 1	0.79	3.61	0.77	3.11	1.16	6.47	0.00	2.31	-0.18	7.04	0.73	2.03	<b>1.20</b>	<b>6.45</b>	<b>0.12</b>	<b>1.95</b>
Week 2	0.74	4.35	0.00	3.11	1.07	7.54	0.00	2.31	0.20	7.24	0.60	2.63	<b>-1.36</b>	<b>5.09</b>	<b>1.85</b>	<b>3.80</b>
Week 3	0.20	4.55	0.66	3.77	0.02	7.56	0.63	2.94	0.41	7.65	0.26	2.89	<b>-0.55</b>	<b>4.54</b>	<b>0.97</b>	<b>4.77</b>
Week 4	0.44	4.99	0.40	4.17	0.33	7.89	0.57	3.51	-0.08	7.57	0.79	3.68	<b>0.35</b>	<b>4.89</b>	<b>0.26</b>	<b>5.03</b>
Week 5	0.85	5.84	0.02	4.19	0.04	7.93	0.95	4.46	0.33	7.90	0.35	4.03	<b>0.01</b>	<b>4.90</b>	<b>0.52</b>	<b>5.55</b>
August-Week 1	0.59	6.43	0.37	4.56	0.36	8.29	0.59	5.05	0.49	8.39	0.17	4.20	<b>-0.04</b>	<b>4.86</b>	<b>0.55</b>	<b>6.10</b>
Week 2	-1.37	5.06	1.67	6.23	-1.87	6.42	2.94	7.99	0.63	9.02	0.14	4.34	<b>0.84</b>	<b>5.70</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>6.10</b>
Week 3	0.66	5.72	0.11	6.34	0.58	7.00	0.08	8.07	0.20	9.22	1.06	5.40	<b>-0.05</b>	<b>5.65</b>	<b>0.59</b>	<b>6.69</b>
Week 4	0.02	5.74	0.74	7.08	-0.03	6.97	0.61	8.68	0.13	9.35	0.37	5.77	<b>0.57</b>	<b>6.22</b>	<b>0.06</b>	<b>6.75</b>
Sept-Week 1	0.15	5.89	0.29	7.37	-0.48	6.49	0.78	9.46	-0.16	9.19	0.54	6.31	<b>0.32</b>	<b>6.54</b>	<b>0.10</b>	<b>6.85</b>
Week 2	0.70	6.59	0.04	7.41	0.38	6.87	0.00	9.46	0.26	9.45	0.16	6.47	<b>0.81</b>	<b>7.35</b>	<b>1.73</b>	<b>8.58</b>
Week 3	0.05	6.64	0.22	7.63	-0.14	6.73	0.53	9.99	0.21	9.66	0.22	6.69	<b>0.53</b>	<b>7.88</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>8.58</b>
Week 4	0.28	6.92	0.24	7.87	-0.18	6.55	0.41	10.40	-1.18	8.48	1.55	8.24	<b>0.30</b>	<b>8.18</b>	<b>0.13</b>	<b>8.71</b>
Week 5	0.16	7.08	0.67	8.54	-0.78	5.77	0.88	11.28	0.27	8.75	0.84	9.08	<b>0.26</b>	<b>8.44</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>8.71</b>
Seasonal Totals	7.08			8.54	5.77			11.28	8.75			9.08	8.44			8.71

**NOTE:** Weekly evaporation and precipitation (in inches) data is collected and provided by UAF, Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station, located on Trunk Road in Palmer, Alaska.